

Message Text

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ACTION COME-00

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 NEA-10 ISO-00 SP-02 USIA-06 AID-05

EB-08 NSC-05 TRSE-00 SS-15 STR-04 OMB-01 CEA-01

L-03 H-01 /074 W

-----074574 110326Z /12

R 101730Z AUG 77

FM AMEMBASSY PARIS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6955

INFO ALL OECD CAPITALS

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI

AMEMBASSY ALGIERS

AMEMBASSY AMMAN

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

AMEMBASSY DOHA

AMEMBASSY KUWAIT

AMEMBASSY MANAMA

AMEMBASSY MUSCAT

AMEMBASSY SANA

AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI

AMEMBASSY TUNIS

USINT BAGHDAD

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE PARIS 23261

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ETRD

SUBJECT: REQUEST FOR INFORMATION ABOUT BOYCOTT
PRACTICES.

REFS: (A) STATE 185350; (B) 76 STATE 25007;

(C) PARIS 30687 (76); (D) PARIS 06936; (E) PARIS A-273

JULY 21, 1977; (F) PARIS 22459.

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1. WHILE DEPARTMENT AND COMMERCE ARE BETTER ABLE THAN
WE TO MAKE LEGAL INTERPRETATION, OUR UNDERSTANDING OF
ARTICLE 32(III) OF NEW FRENCH LAW NUMBER 77-574 OF
JUNE 7, 1977, AND OF PRIME MINISTER'S "AVIS" OF JULY
24, 1977, IS THAT THESE MEASURES DO NOT RPT NOT
"REQUIRE FOREIGN BUSINESS CONCERNS AND THEIR DOMESTIC
SUBSIDIARIES TO AGREE, EITHER EXPLICITLY OR IMPLICITLY,

TO REFRAIN FROM ANY OF THE CONDUCT LISTED" IN REF (B),
PARA 3 (A) THROUGH 3 (E). OUR RESPONSE TO REF (A)
THUS REMAINS UNCHANGED FROM LAST YEAR'S RESPONSE
(REF C).

2. WE WILL HAVE TO WAIT AT LEAST UNTIL RE-OPENING OF
NATIONAL ASSEMBLY IN OCTOBER TO ASSESS EFFECTS OF NEW
FRENCH LEGISLATION AND PM'S OPINION. LATTER, WE ARE
TOLD, DOES NOT RPT NOT CARRY POWER OF LAW. DURING
COMING MONTHS IT COULD BE ATTACKED IN PARLIAMENT,
CHALLENGED IN COURT, OR WHOLE ISSUE COULD SIMPLY BE
SWEEPED UNDER RUG AND FORGOTTEN. ARTICLE 32 III AND
PM'S OPINION DO SEEM TO CONTAIN MEANS OF DISPENSATION
FOR FIRMS HERE WHICH WANT ARAB BUSINESS WITHOUT
RISKING POSSIBLE PENALTIES OF KRIEG ANTI-BOYCOTT
AMENDMENT. HOWEVER, WE SEE NOTHING GOF HAS DONE SO
FAR WHICH COULD BE CONSTRUED AS "REQUIRING" COMPLIANCE
WITH ARAB BOYCOTT.

3. REFS (E) AND (F) GIVE DETAILS OF LAW AND OPINION
CITED ABOVE.
HARTMAN

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NNN

Message Attributes

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